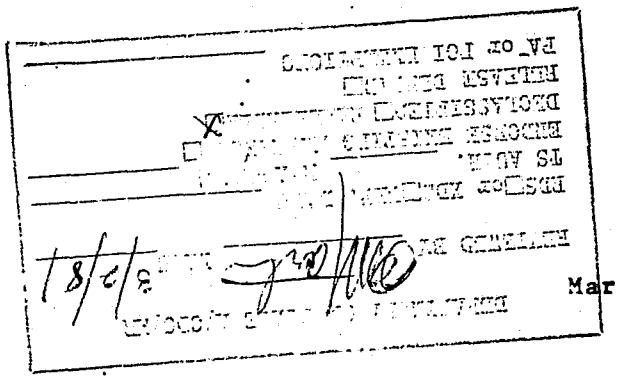

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March 23, 1979

Ms. Jill Teska
P.O. Box 262
Georgetown, Texas
78626

Dear Ms. Teska,

Mr. Bushnell has asked me to reply to your letter of February 26, 1979. I have read your letter very carefully to determine how I can be of assistance. As you can imagine we have voluminous files on the People's Temple. However, this information on file does not include any sociological analyses, it simply reflects the specific actions taken before and after the tragic events of November 18, 1978. As the former Consul in Georgetown until August, 1978 who had extensive contacts with the People's Temple in Guyana, I was able to draw certain conclusions from the mass suicide/murder at Jonestown that would be difficult to explain in a letter. I can understand the interest that your class would have in this subject, but I doubt you will find anywhere in government the type of information you seek. There are several books that have been written about Jonestown of varying accuracy and quality that may assist. You can also request under the Freedom of Information Act, for information that the Department of State presently has on file. Your request should be sent to the Department of State, Office of Public Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20520.

I hope the above information will assist you in your endeavor. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Richard A. McCoy
Office of Caribbean Affairs

P.O. Box 262
Georgetown, Texas 78626
February 26, 1979

Mr. John Bushnell
State Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bushnell,

I am a student at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, and in one of my courses, Collective Behavior, we are studying the recent incident with the People's Temple. Since your department had direct contact with Guyana after the mass suicides, I would be very interested in any information or transcripts you may have concerning the incident. Also, if you have any other information on the People's Temple, Jim Jones, and other cults that would be of any aid to our study, I would also appreciate your help. We are trying to work up a sociological analysis of the Guyana incident, but first we must have the facts on the cult before and after the "mass suicide."

I appreciate any time and consideration you can give me for this study. If you could also let me know of anyone else I could contact who has any pertinent information on Jim Jones and the People's Temple, I would greatly appreciate your help.

Thank you very much for your efforts to help me with this project.

Sincerely,

Jill Teska